**NV Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD) Policy Committee Meeting Minutes from January 18, 2024**

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Zoom [https://zoom.us/j/](https://zoom.us/j/8)87493919504

Meeting ID: 874 9391 9504

NV Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities  
406 East Second Street, Carson City 89701

# Special Notes

* All items reviewed during this meeting are available for view on the NGCDD website; under the event created for this meeting: [www.nevadaddcouncil.org](http://www.nevadaddcouncil.org/)
* Bolded text under a heading indicates an action taken by the NGCDD.

# Introductions

Committee Members Present: Stacy Alaribe, Committee Chair; Heather Lafferty; Max Lowe; Dora Martinez; Jack Mayes; Santa Perez; Renee Portnell; Christine Riggi; Cindi Swanson; Jodi Thornley; Vivian Turner

Committee Members Absent: Jennifer Frischmann; Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh

NGCDD Staff Present: Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director; Alysa Marquez, Intern; Ellen Marquez, Self-Advocacy Coordinator; Rebecca Ortiz, Executive Assistant; Kimberly Palma-Ortega, Public Health Liaison; Marisol Rivas, Projects Manager

Public Present: Autumn Blattman

# Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by NGCDD Policy Committee Chair, Stacy Alaribe, at 10:00 a.m.

Rebecca Ortiz, Executive Assistant verified the agenda for this meeting was posted to the proper locations on January 10, 2024.

# Land Acknowledgment

Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director, provided the land acknowledgement as follows: The Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities, as a program whose designated state agency is the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, acknowledges, honors, and respects the diverse Indigenous peoples connected to this land and recognize the State of Nevada is situated on the traditional homelands of the Nuwu, Newe, Numu and Wa She Shu. We offer gratitude for the land itself, for those who have stewarded it for generations, and for the opportunity to work alongside our Tribal partners. We encourage everyone in this space to engage in acknowledgement and continued learning about the Indigenous peoples who work and live on this land since time immemorial, and about the historical and present realities of colonialism.

# Public Comment

Ms. Alaribe asked if there was any public comment, verified meeting information, and stated how to submit public comments telephonically.

* Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director stated application for speakers is open for the 2024 Self-Advocacy Conference and the registration for those who wish to attend. She also shared information on the iCan Bike camps that will be held on March 11-15, 2024 in Las Vegas and June 17-21, 2024 in Reno. It is open to anyone who is interested in participating. Those who wish to volunteer can reach out to staff or Diana Rovetti for more information.

# Approval of Minutes from the September 2023 Meeting

Ms. Alaribe asked if there was a motion to approve the September 28, 2023 Committee meeting minutes. She opened this item for discussion.

**Jack Mayes motioned to approve the September 28, 2023 Committee meeting minutes as written. Vivian Turner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Voting Videos**

Ms. Alaribe invited Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director, to present information on voting and election videos.

Ms. Nielsen presented on the series of videos created in collaboration with the Nevada Secretary of State's office. These videos, which cover various aspects of the election cycle and voting options, are accessible on the council’s YouTube page and linked on the Secretary of State's website. Ms. Nielsen also mentioned plans to update a video about the effective absentee system for voting. The videos were created with the help of a film agency, Mountain Dog Media. The council has previously worked with them to produce videos which they were able to compile and submit to film festivals worldwide, winning several prizes. Ms. Nielsen also praised the efforts of Ellen, Rebecca, and Heather, who stepped in at the last minute to film the videos along with the volunteer self-advocate from the Arc of Nevada, Victoria. She opened this item for discussion.

# Position Statements

Ms. Alaribe introduced this agenda item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director, for conversation on the position statements.

Ms. Nielsen referred to the document titled “DRAFT Position on Health Care”. She discussed the background for the position statement. She also discussed the recommendations presented during the Full Council meeting. She opened this item for further discussion. Recommendations for changes to the statement were recorded.

Ms. Nielsen referred to the document titled “DRAFT Position Statement on Sexual Health”. She discussed the background for this position statement. She also discussed the recommendations presented during the Full Council meeting. She opened this item for further discussion. Recommendations for changes to the statement were recorded.

# Next Meeting Date

The next Policy Committee meeting will be held on March 21, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. via ZOOM.

# Public Comment

Ms. Alaribe asked if there is any public comment, verified meeting information, and stated how to submit public comments telephonically.

* Autumn Blattman stated that she is a regional coordinator for the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) and had some information to share for the position statement on health care. There are updated 504 regulations that are going out from the Federal Department of Health and Human Services. They're working on re-doing their regulations, and they do have some mention in there about accessible health care for people with disabilities. She wanted to ensure this was on the committee's radar.
* Ms. Ortiz made a correction to the timely posting of the agenda. It was not on the ninth of January; it was the tenth of January.
* Max Lowe stated that he would like information on dietary needs included in the position statement on sexual health.
* Santa Perez stated she is on the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) committee which discussed the updated 504 regulations.

# Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.